

The date on which your subscription expires will be found on the wrapper.

The paper will be stopped on that day unless previously renewed.

No bills or receipt sent to individual subscribers.

The



People.

Agents sending in subscriptions without remittance must state distinctly how long they are to run.

Agents are personally charged with and held responsible for unpaid subscription sent in by them.

Only duly elected and approved agents acknowledged.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 51.

NEW YORK, MARCH 19, 1899.

PRICE 2 CENTS.



A STORM CENTER—BUT UNSHAKABLE.

WE WIN!

The S. T. & L. A. Scores Its First Triumph.

4,000 LED TO VICTORY.

Backed, and Known to be Backed, by a Growing Class-Conscious Party of the Working Class, the Irrepressible Economic Uprising of the Proletariat Can be Successful, and can be Turned into a Valuable Co-adjutor for Emancipation—Only When Backed, and Known to be Backed, by Ignorant and Corrupt Pure and Simple Fakirism are the Economic Uprisings of the Proletariat Disheartening Flash in the Pan.

Last Tuesday morning, the following telegram was received at the headquarters of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance from Wm. L. Brower, the General Secretary of the S. T. & L. A., who was ordered last week to proceed to Allegheny and take charge of the Bessemer Steel Company strike:

PITTSBURGH, Penn., March 13.—We won. The strike is settled. I stay over a few days longer to organize several new Local Alliances and perfect the organization of the District Alliance.—WM. L. BROWER.

This victory is important in many respects. Not only is it the first large victory won by the S. T. & L. A., but it is a victory that opens a new page in the economic movement of the land.

Started and run by the ignorant and corrupt labor fakirs of pure and simple-

been lost; lost wholly; not only would the demands of the men not have been granted, but the revolutionary spirit that prompted them to rebel would have been run into the ground; perhaps some sham concession might have been made; the only winners, however, would have been the employers and the labor fakirs: the former would have got their workmen back, subdued, as disappointment subdues men, and all the more disheartened for the class struggle; the latter, the fakirs, would have earned the thanks of the employers, and received a bone of some sort or other to gnaw at.

It was wholly different in this instance. Started from the start under the guidance of Alliance men, and conducted to a finish by such intelligent and honest leadership, the strike took a different turn. Even if it had been lost, as far as its immediate demands were concerned, it would not have been lost as an educational incident in the class struggle; but it was won; and the victory not only fifty crowns worthy efforts but fully demonstrates by illustration the wisdom of the party at large and in New York in particular when it took its stand by the S. T. & L. A.

The economic movement (strikes and boycotts) stood until now discredited before the popular eye. The conclusion was rashly leaped to that there was no help in the economic movement; that all efforts in that direction were misspent. The Alliance, scientifically poised, being grounded not upon imperfect but upon complete facts, denied the dangerous assertion. It pointed out that the failures of the economic movement were the result of stupid and corrupt leadership; that intelligently conducted, the economic movement could be a valuable shield to the workers, and that this weapon of defence could grow into effectiveness and even develop into one of positive aggression if a growing class-conscious political party of the workers stood back of their economic efforts. This has been proven just now at Allegheny by the victory of the 4,000 strikers. From the start the attitude of the strike struck the public of that neigh-

borhood and the company itself as something new. The language of the speakers, their methods, their bearing, stamped them before the public as something superior to anything ever seen on the field of the economic class struggle, and pitched the strikers themselves upon a higher plane. The police intimidations; the conduct of the Gompers A. F. of L. organizers, who sought to introduce dissensions, and, who, true to their ignoble scab-breeding instincts did their level best to have the men lose the strike,—all these and many more episodes that will be described later on in successive issues,—could not avail. For the first time in the history of the Labor Movement in America, the leaders of a strike could truthfully say to the men, as was done in this instance: "82,000 Socialists in land, and more to come, stand back of you!" And thus for the first time in the history of the American Labor Movement the employer was made to realize that he had to deal with a MOVEMENT,—not with an isolated, ill-conducted detachment, but with a whole MOVEMENT, well equipped, in whose arsenal was that most redoubtable of all weapons: the S. L. P. BALLOT.

That this victory of the principles of the Alliance was won so soon after its foundation is but additional evidence of its soundness. Often has the taunt been sung at the Alliance: "Where is your success?" For the last two years, these first years of its existence, the Alliance has been laying the foundation for its future success. The sunken piers it was driving by means of an intense agitation were not, of course, known of but to the best informed. Upon these sunken piers now rises the victory at Allegheny,—a victory that will resound class-consciously at the polls next election and demonstrate that the Socialist movement, in order to be effective, must be active in the every-day class struggle, the economic movement; and that such activity will be to a great extent lost if it does not take the ground from under the labor fakir by building up genuine labor organizations.

IN PUEBLO, COLO.

Municipal Programme, Catechism and Ticket of the Socialist Labor Party.

We, members of the Socialist Labor party of Pueblo, in our initial municipal campaign present for the consideration of the voters the following as some of the causes for the existence of our revolutionary party, its aims, methods and tactics:

The concentration of capital in the hands of the few who own the machine and appropriate four-fifths of the product for the privilege of working that machine.

The control by the same few of all the machinery of the government, political, judicial, social, educational and economic by corruption, debauchery, intimidation, force and murder.

Its aim is the total destruction of the present methodless, nonsensical, anarchical form and the erection of a scientific methodical Co-operative Commonwealth, one of equal opportunities for all. Its method is that which has been tested by the experience of International Socialism—educational, to instruct the proletarian or wage slave to a true class-conscious realization of his position in society, that he is positively a wage slave.

Its tactics is to turn the brightness of the meridian sun on all superstition, ignorance, error and fraud whether practiced by political, ecclesiastical, social, economic or industrial fakirs.

And its demands of members, when elected to office, are so positive and just that few will have the temerity to disobey.

MANIFESTO.

The S. L. P. makes no fusion or compromises with any capitalist or pseudo-reform party. Makes no concession or promises in the hope of temporary gain; withholds no attack on fraud, corruption or vice in the fear of an enemy.

But knowing the rapid advance in machinery, the colossal trusts in production and distribution will force the proletarian into organization at no distant day, it pursues the even tenor of its way without regard to the kicks and stabs of fakirs and "I am as good a Socialist as you are, but," and holds aloft the beacon light of truth and directs the way to the only organization for the emancipation of the proletarian which to be peacefully attained must come through political action.

While we are thoroughly in accord with the State, National and International S. L. P. as the first move for the solidarity of the wage earning class we make these specific demands:

First—The municipalization of all public utilities, the gas, electric light power and heat and the extension of the city water plant to the "mess" under a Socialist régime.

Second—The reorganizing of the city limits to take in the excluded territory, those poor corporations and overburdened land owners.

Third—That all city work be done by the day and eight hours shall constitute a day's work and \$2.00 shall be the minimum wage.

Fourth—The education of all children under fourteen years of age shall be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books and all school supplies when necessary.

Fifth—We demand that public buildings shall be for use by the people for public assemblage without cost.

DO YOU THINK?

Do you think for yourself?
Do you think the Republican gold bug party will relieve your wants or prevent further distress?
Do you think the free silver Democratic party can relieve your wants or prevent further distress?
Do you think the middle-of-the-road mortgage party could relieve your wants or prevent further distress?
Do you think the mutual admiration Prohibition party could relieve your wants or prevent further distress?
Do you think these parties and

(Continued on page 4.)

TURNED DOWN.

The Immediate Results of the Malden S. L. P. Municipal Campaign in Revere, Mass.

REVERE, Mass., March 12.—The local skirmish is over. For the past year the "Citizens" party, a conglomeration, has held the reins of government. In the past year this "Citizens" party broke up our open-air meetings; in the past year this "Citizens" party arrested our comrades, and trailed us through the capitalistic Courts for merely maintaining our rights to free speech. It was this same party that would not allow the "damned Socialists," as they elegantly called us, the occupancy of the Revere Town Hall; it was this same party that utterly ignored and refused us even a small representation at the polls, but—on March 6th, we held the balance of power regardless of all the jockeying and wild understrappers, therefore it is with flattering unctious we have to record the dethronement of this party, for on that date the Socialists of Revere drew clean and sharp the keen knife of class-consciousness, and severed the cords of Goo-Goolism that had bound them round for years.

The idiosyncratic arising of lady-understrappers at the polls for School Committee, was an amusing sight to behold.

Ignominiously indeed is the defeat of this "Citizens" party. Out of 25 names upon their ticket they but captured one only; the Socialist comrades cutting down the candidates deep all along the ballot.

True, the immediate result of our own ticket being in the field is the placing of the Republicans in office, who, for this, give us very little credit, if any. Still our principles must be propagated; our speakers must be heard, our literature must be read, and therefore, we shall meet them too at Philippi, when the good time arrives,

(Continued on page 4.)

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York
— EVERY SUNDAY —

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Invariably in advance:

One year \$2.00
Six months \$1.00
Single copies 5c

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office on April 4, 1891.



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential) 2,068
In 1890 13,331
In 1892 (Presidential) 21,157
In 1894 33,133
In 1896 (Presidential) 36,564
In 1898 82,204

It is not because he is a leader of industry that a man is a capitalist; on the contrary, he is a leader of industry because he is a capitalist. The leadership of industry is an attribute of capital, just as in feudal times the functions of general and judge were attributes of landed property.

MARX.

SELF-EXERTION.

The recent election to the United States Senate of the multimillionaire Wm. A. Clark, of Montana, is furnishing the candle-holders of capitalism with text on which they preach a variety of more or less idiotic sermons intended to prove that wealth, under the existing social order, is the inevitable reward of industry, thrift, and all the other virtues on the catalogue of virtues. If these gentlemen understood the subject they are handling they would give multimillionaire Wm. A. Clark a wide berth. He, so far from bearing out the nursery-tales of capitalism, overthrows them.

Clark, we are told, owns mines of gold and silver in Colorado and Nevada; owns 15,000 and 30,000 acres of beat plantations in California and Nebraska; owns factories in the East for the manufacture of copper wire; owns in the South and in Mexico broad plantations that grow coffee, sugarcane and rubber; and owns banks East and West. This roll of property, from which Clark extracts a daily income of \$5,000, need but to be unrolled in order to knock into a cocked hat the theory that wealth is, under capitalism, the reward of industry—meaning, of course, thereby of the industry of the beneficiary.

It goes without saying that no man lives, ever lived, or ever will live who can himself operate such a variety of industries. Even if he had the mental and physical powers of all the Solomons and Socrateses and of all the Samsons and Fitzhughs combined the thing would be impossible. The \$5,000 a day revenues, stand out, however, as a fact. If he can not produce that wealth, it being impossible for any one man to cover such an area and such a variety of industries, the conclusion is inevitable that his large revenues must flow from the labor of others. Indeed they do so. What multimillionaire Clark's great wealth demonstrates is the Socialist maxim that, under the capitalist system, "Wealth is the product of labor and the reward of idleness."

Barely has the S. T. & L. A. carried the Allegheny, Pa., strike to a successful end, when, encouraged thereby, the Local Alliance at Jeannette, Pa., also strikes against the exploiter. Wm. L. Brower, the National Secretary of the S. T. & L. A., has been called thither to take charge.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

Under the title: "That \$1,000," the London, England, "Labor Leader" gives this bit of information:

We continue to hear of money being spent in the constituency we referred to last week with the object of securing the Labor vote at a forthcoming election. It is now taking the form of paying the expenses of halls for concerts and clearing the cards of trade unionists in arrears with their subscriptions.

Evidently, although extensively disfranchised, the "labor vote" is worth looking after in England, and the British capitalist politicians are beginning to find out the "political uses" that the pure and simple union can be put to,—as their American cousins have long since found out.

It is a pleasure to announce and welcome the birth of still another Socialist publication—"The Workers' Call," published for and under the control of Section Chicago, Ill., of the S. L. P., at 36 North-Clark street. Its salutary, which reviews the social development from feudalism to capitalism down to our own days when we stand at the threshold of Socialism, it says:

In the first place we shall stand still, upon the lines laid down by the class-conscious international Socialists of the world over. Clear in the position that upon the present producing class rests the destinies of the future, and that their interests are in accord with social development we cast our lot with the members of that class. We shall seek to voice their wrongs, plead their cause, and aid in the securing of their final victory. As members of this class, we include all, whether workers with hand or with brain, save those alone who live by means of the tribute exacted through ownership of the instruments necessary to the

production and distribution of the means of life.

The birth of this paper patentizes the fact that the movement in Chicago has, for good and all, cut loose from the silly apron-strings that so long held it back. The city's last vote already indicated that a new, freer, more intelligent, manly spirit was animating the party there, and that thenceforth aggressive work with resultant success could be looked for. The "Workers' Call" has a promising field to work in.

The Terre Haute, Ind., "Toller" is evidently tolling hard to bamboozle the workers and aid the capitalist parties. It says:

WHAT MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP HAS DONE.

In Glasgow, Scotland, it has raised wages, reduced hours and abolished taxation. The street car service turned into the city treasury \$200,000 profits the first year; fare two cents; less during early and late hours; the workers' Glasgow is putting in a telephone service.

Not a word of all of which is true.

The Cleveland, O., correspondent to the New York "Vorwärts," German organ of the Socialist Labor party, gives these spicy items on the approaching municipal campaign there:

Next April, there will probably be again five tickets in the field, seeing that, last fall, late again bestowed upon us a so-called "Union Reform Party," the object of which was to stop at a net up again "old" McKisson, who adopted a municipal programme that claims to be directed against the corporations. For the object of his attack has been chosen the street railway in which his Republican political adversary Mark Hanna is financially interested.

Some of his hearers, who formerly gave themselves out as Socialists, are now going from saloon to saloon and speak of McKisson as a Socialist, and they "prove" their point by producing a roll of names, signed by the party, which the treating is going on they confidentially inform the treaters that McKisson is a much more practical Socialist than the patent-Socialist who goes "a step at a time" first the city is to be captured, then the State, and then the nation.

If the San Francisco, Cal., "Class Struggle" does not look out and persists in its evil ways, there will surely be people calling it a mud-slinger. Just think of a passage like this:

Ex-Governor Altgeld of Illinois is making some violent speeches about the money power. As a remedy for the ills that afflict the body politic he suggests silver at "16 to 1" and the initiative and referendum. For a constitutional disease he recommends a plaster instead of a purifier. It has probably not occurred to him, that a nation's money is controlled by those who possess the means of production and distribution; and that the initiative and referendum is valuable only as wisely used,—that it is a negative not a positive principle. In the meantime Mr. Altgeld holds on to his "hard money" position, and demands that the security with good interest when he has a chance, and exemplifies his faith in silver as a means of final payment by demanding contracts payable in gold. Verily, Mr. Altgeld is a kee-former with a big R.

There are not less than three dozen worthies we know of and could name forthwith, who will feel particularly hit by such arguments, and, in their usual style, call a well-deserved blow "mud-slinging." We'll "sling" away—all along the line.

The language of the capitalist press of all shades—Republican, Democratic and Reform; gold and silver; protection and free trade,—during the Allegheny strike should not escape observation. All the papers we have seen, of Pittsburgh and New York, cry in one accord against the Socialists. The Allegheny strike, conducted by the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, did not at all suit those gentlemen; it was not the article they have been familiar with, or were used to; there were no labor fakirs through whom to delude, mislead, cheat the strikers; and, consequently, there was no rowdism. On the contrary, there was class-conscious intelligence conducting the fight and inspiring the men with the fire of their class dignity; above all there was the ringing assurance to the workers that the \$2,000 Socialists, and more coming, of the S. L. P. stood behind and backed them up. In sight of such a phenomenal occurrence in the annals of American strikes, one need not wonder that sentences like the following bristled all over the reports of the strike in the capitalist press:

"Socialists not wanted."
"The Intelligent Workmen on strike don't want to be led by Socialists."
"The non-Socialist strikers are disgusted with the Socialists."
"Riotous Socialists endanger the success of the strike."
Etc., etc., etc.

Ring out the old, ring in the new!

Thieves are falling out among themselves. The Pawtucket, R. I., "Times" has this:

The cream-fed official organ of the trusts, the New York "Evening Post," says sweetly and aristocratically that the output of new trust stocks and bonds last year was upward of \$1,000,000,000; that for the first two months of this year the output was \$1,000,000,000; that the indications are that the total output for this year will be six times as great as it was last year—upward of \$6,000,000,000.

That is a typical illustration of the rapid growth of monopoly and the rapid decline of individual enterprise. Chicago had no more business firms in 1897 than it had in 1870, although in those 27 years its population had been multiplied by eight.

That is to say, the trusts are succeeding beyond their hopes in their endeavor to crush out small competition by a process of illegal but unpunished jimmy and budgeon plunder.

When the outlawed criminal, who is no more outlawed than the trust under the anti-trust law, wishes to rob he wears a mask and works in the still of the night. He knows that detection will result in swift punishment. The trust works openly in violation of the statutes made and provided and boldly publishes its crimes in its official organs, so that all may read and know that the trust is superior to the law. Why???

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time, it will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

THE FIRST 100 BILLS.

One evening, in the heat of last year's campaign in this city, a large crowd being gathered around a Socialist truck in the 16th Assembly District, a Tammany Hall city office-holder interrupted the speaker with frequent questions; the answers he received turned his questions into boomerangs; he became rattled, and demanded, in the name of free speech, that be given 5 minutes; he was granted 10 and took 25. The gist of his argument was the folly of siding a Socialist to the State Legislature at Albany, "because," said he, "a bill comes up; the Democrats vote aye and the Republicans vote no; what is the Socialist to do? he would have to dodge and not vote at all; he is useless there; therefore the voters of the District will lose their votes if they elect a Socialist Assemblyman; they should elect the Democratic candidate, Mr. Benjamin Hoffman; he won't have to dodge; his vote will tell every time."

A tremendous crowd had gathered by that time. It intently listened to the answer by the Socialist speaker, who proved that the theory of the Tammanite was false; that theory proceeded from the assumption that Democrats and Republicans were divided upon matters that concerned the working class; they were not; they were divided only upon matters the issue of which was which set of capitalists, Democratic or Republican, should have the larger share of the hide of the working class; only upon that were the two old parties divided, and when such matters were up, the thunder from a Socialist Assemblyman would be so effective, inside and outside of the Assembly Rooms, as to make it valuable for the whole people; upon all other questions, and these by far the more numerous, Republicans and Democrats WERE NOT DIVIDED; they were absolutely at one; both Republicans and Democrats are there mainly to oppress the working class and help the capitalists in the work of fleecing labor; consequently, there was no such thing as "Democrats voting aye" and "Republicans voting no," and thus compelling the Socialist "to dodge"; he won't have to dodge. Republicans and Democrats don't divide upon the matters that concern the working class; they VOTE SOLIDLY FOR everything that will aid and SOLIDLY AGAINST everything that will prevent the employer or capitalist class from skinning the workman; there is no chance of a Socialist Assemblyman having to do any "dodging"; the laws against the workman for the capitalist class are passed UNANIMOUSLY, Democrats and Republicans voting together as one man.

This answer, that had but to be made in order to be accepted as luminous by every intelligent man present, was received with rounds upon rounds of applause; and the vote taken on the spot showed but 6 hands for Tammany, while those that went up for the S. L. P. were too numerous to be counted.

This happened late last October. We have since had in session at Albany the Legislature elected in November. Below is a graphic and crushing presentation of the truth of the Socialist's answer to the capitalist political heeler. The oneness of Democrats and Republicans appears strikingly from the following list giving the vote on the first 100 bills that passed the Assembly:

1st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
2d—84 ayes, 58 noes.
3d—unanimous.
4th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
5th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
6th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
7th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
8th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
9th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
10th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
11th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
12th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
13th—unanimous.
14th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
15th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
16th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
17th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
18th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
19th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
20th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
21st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
22d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
23d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
24th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
25th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
26th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
27th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
28th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
29th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
30th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
31st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
32d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
33d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
34th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
35th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
36th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
37th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
38th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
39th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
40th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
41st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
42d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
43d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
44th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
45th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
46th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
47th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
48th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
49th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
50th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
51st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
52d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
53d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
54th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
55th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
56th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
57th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
58th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
59th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
60th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
61st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
62d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
63d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
64th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
65th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
66th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
67th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
68th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
69th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
70th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
71st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
72d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
73d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
74th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
75th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
76th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
77th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
78th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
79th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
80th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
81st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
82d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
83d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
84th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
85th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
86th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
87th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
88th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
89th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
90th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
91st—85 ayes, 58 noes.
92d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
93d—85 ayes, 58 noes.
94th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
95th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
96th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
97th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
98th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
99th—85 ayes, 58 noes.
100th—85 ayes, 58 noes.

Thus, out of the first 100 bills, 89 passed with absolute unanimity. But even these figures do not tell the whole tale. Of the remaining 11, 6 passed with virtual unanimity, so that, prac-

tically, 95 out of the 100 were bills on which the "warring" Democrats and Republicans—warring during campaign time, when they make the workman believe there is a great difference between them, so great that their politicians will be firing their votes against each other—stood cheek by jowl, went hand in hand, marched "arm and arm!"

Nor yet does this presentation exhaust the matter. The 5 bills on which Democrats stood arrayed against Republicans were, each of them, bills for party spoils—not one affected the workers.

Nor yet is the presentation of the oneness of the old parties complete. An inquiry into the nature of the 95 bills that were passed unanimously, or to all intents and purposes so, brings out still more clearly the fraudulent pretences of old parties' feuds. These were bills that concerned capitalist interests only—conspicuous among these was one to bestow increased patronage upon several Judges of the Supreme Court, who, in their zeal for "Law and Order," had distinguished themselves by the issuing of injunctions against workmen on strike against their fleeing employers!

It is stated that, after the campaign incident above referred to in the 16th Assembly District, and enraged at the popular manifestation in favor of the Socialist Labor party, that the incident evoked Mr. Benjamin Hoffman, the Democratic candidate for the Assembly, looked up his fellow politician, who had started the debate, and spouting obscene invectives at him, exclaimed:

"You — — —, if I am defeated, YOU did it!"

Right was Hoffman. Through his mouth on that occasion the combined Democratic and Republican parties voiced their pent-up sentiments. Anything that contributes to undecieve the masses is a nail, driven into the coffin of the old parties and of the capitalist system, which they both uphold upon the back of the working class. Where, for instance, was Hoffman when those 95 capitalist bills were being passed? Where was he when that bill was passed increasing the patronage of Labor opposing Judges? Where was he all along during the discussion of these pro-capitalist and anti-labor laws? Was he wrestling with his Republican adversaries? No! No! No! If there was any wrestling done, it was a wrestling to get ahead of each other in doing the dirty work of the Labor-skinning capitalist class!

The Republican party and the Democratic party are the right hand and the left hand of that obscene beast—the CAPITALIST CLASS, that lives on the sweat of the brow of the working class. There is no difference between the two. The workers' path towards their emancipation lies across the prostrate carcasses of both sets of politicians, laid prostrate with the Hammer blows of the Socialist Labor party ballot.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

A number of questions,—economic, political and administrative,—have reached this office from Texas. They are dealt with in the below series.

I.
Neither the Rev. F. M. Sprague nor Edward Bellamy are authoritative writers of Socialism. The former's economics are, to say the least, rather mixed. As to the latter, his place is a distinguished one in the literature that has been heralding the approaching storm of the Social Revolution. But his place, distinguished though it is, locates him with the sentimental rather than with the practical workers. This was well illustrated by his joining the Populist party. His sentiment was captivated, and carried him off into a movement whose malinspiring was reactionary.

II.
The "law of rent" is an unscientific expression as that other that one hears quite frequently now-a-days: "natural monopolies." Every monopoly is natural. There is no more sense in the "law of rent" than there would be in the "law of the price of wheat." The price of wheat and its value are governed by the same law that governs the price and value of all other merchandise; the so-called "law of rent" is but the law of the price of land or of its use; as land is a merchandise, like any other, with no source of value other than the source of value of any other merchandise, the term "law of rent" is essentially false. According, in the place of the "law of rent," Socialism offers the "law of values" which covers the whole ground.

III.
"Competition on equal terms" is an impossibility under the system of the private ownership of the necessary machinery of production, except during the early days of small production, i. e., of small tools. So soon as the tool, necessary for production, becomes so large that it can no longer be operated individually, competition, on equal or any other terms, is out of date, to all intents and purposes as fully out of date as the dodo.

Arrived at that end of the social road, one set of people perseveres in the utopian attempts to make competition still possible. Their schemes are numerous; the single taxer is among them. But all these schemes are quackeries. They proceed from the ignorance of the development, of the meaning of the word, "Capital." Monopoly essentially continues to rule. An other set, however, the Socialist, realizing that competition has become impossible, moves on. The same facts, that point out to the Socialist the utter impossibility of the continuance of competition, point out to him the path to pursue in order to avoid the evil results of private monopoly. Socialism demands the nationalization, the collective ownership of the monopoly, thus drawing the sting from bee. Look out for the article on "Trusts" in next May-Day issue of THE PEOPLE.

IV.

Under Socialism, the land would be treated the same as all other articles of the nation's wealth.

That part of the land, necessary to production, would be held collectively, just the same as the rest of that part

of the nation's wealth that is its necessary machinery of production.

That part of the land that is not part of the nation's necessary machinery of production, would be treated just the same as the rest of what may be called "the nation's wealth for consumption," or be it "use." Land is not usable for habitation (consumption) unless labor has been bestowed upon it,—no more than leather is usable for foot-wear unless labor has been bestowed upon it. Such land—just as shoes, hats and toothpicks,—would be wealth collectively produced by the nation; and, just as with shoes, hats, toothpicks, etc., the individual members of the Socialist Commonwealth, would have a right to as much thereof as is equal to the share he contributed towards the nation's collective wealth.

The bare idea of living in a Socialist Commonwealth "independently of its industrial institutions" is preposterous;—unless by "living" be meant the occupancy of a grave.

V.
Socialism will be inaugurated just the same as any other social policy. When the majority takes control of a Government it legislates its principles into effect. The minority that resists beyond the bounds of civilized dissent will have to be made to submit.

VI.
The manner in which the S. L. P.'s National Executive Committee and National Board of Appeals are selected is the only practical method so far found. The charge that the manner is undemocratic, on the ground that the selection is made only by the members of the Section in which those bodies are located, loses much of its weight seeing that that manner of selection has been adopted and ratified by referendum votes of the whole party.

Whether this method is wise is an other question. In the party's opinion so far expressed, it is the only practical way. The point involves two questions:

1. Who shall do the selecting?—The proposition that the National Convention do that is impractical; members of the N. E. C. resign with great frequency; the National Conventions meet only once every four years. Shall a general vote be taken of the whole party to fill each vacancy? That would take too long. Or shall the place or places remain vacant till the next National Convention meets?

2. Who shall be elected?—This is certainly becoming a burning question. Fault is found that, as now constituted, being elected from the membership of one city, the N. E. C. is not NATIONAL. The point is certainly well taken. On the other hand, owing to the party's poverty, and the resultant impossibility of the members of a truly national committee coming together from all parts of the country with the frequency that is requisite, a N. E. C. consisting of the several States would make the N. E. C. NATIONAL, indeed, but would destroy its EXECUTIVE function. Unable to meet, the executive function would be paralyzed.

There is really no danger of the party's choosing "Raccoon township or Possum Hollow as the seat of its N. E. C., where the distinguishing characteristics of the membership is mediocrity, or venality or any other bad trait." To the extent that the danger is apprehended, as put in the above quotation, it does not exist. To the extent, however, that the above quotation does point out a possible danger, it does not militate seriously against the present method. Should one, or more or all of the members, elected by a city on the N. E. C., be considered unfit, the party at large has under the constitution (IV. 4. a.) an ample method of redress; a general vote can declare any or all of such seats vacant, and order a new election; and should the new returns again prove unsatisfactory, a general vote of the party could be easily got ordering the removal of the seat of the N. E. C. to a safer place.

The present method of selecting the N. E. C. has been adopted by the party obedient to the wise principle that directs one to cut his coat according to his cloth.

VII.
The reason why the party's constitution provides that the place of holding the National Convention shall be determined by a general vote, but the time shall be fixed by the N. E. C. is this: The towns liable to be nominated and thus voted on are comparatively few; the vote thereon would indicate the party's preference. On the other hand, the "dates" liable to be nominated are numerous; hence a vote on them is likely to be so split up that the date that polls the highest vote may have polled a vote that is slight compared to the poll for all the other dates. Such a date would not indicate the party's preference. That is just what happened at the time of the last National Convention; for that reason the constitution was then changed and made to read as it now does on that point.

LECTURES.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Corregan, of Syracuse: Commune Festival, March 18, 8 p. m., at Fillmore Theater Hall, Fillmore avenue and Broadway. Tickets, 10 cents.

—Sunday, March 19, "Socialism, What it is and What it is not," New York Hall, Main Street Labor Lyceum, 276 Main street, 8 p. m.

L. B. Budanow, "Materialism and Literature," Tuesday, March 21, at 65 Columbia street, New York.

M. Leon D. Abbot, "Socialism in England," Sunday, March 19, at 140th street and Third avenue, New York.

James Allman, "Internationalism," Friday, March 17, at 98 Avenue C, New York.

James Allman, "Philosophy of History," Sunday, March 19, 98 Avenue C, New York.

A. S. Brown, "The Labor Movement in America," Sunday, 8 p. m., at 328 East 11th street, New York.

N. L. Shoboff, "The Unwritten Constitution of the United States," Sunday, March 19, at 118 East 110th street, at the Club House of the 32d and 33d Assembly District.

Daniel De Leon, "The Working Class and Politics," Thursday, March 23d, Renwar Hall, corner Broadway and Willoughby avenue, Brooklyn.

B. F. Kelnard, "The Class Struggle," free stereoscopic illustrated lecture, March 20, 8 p. m., at 125 East 100th street, New York.
The same lecture, March 21, 8 p. m., at 125 Amsterdam avenue, and at Beckman's Hall, corner of 142d street and Eighth avenue, on Thursday, March 23d, 8 p. m.



Uncle Sam & Brother Jonathan

Brother Jonathan—I'd like to know upon what principle Socialists claim that the working class should have all the wealth, and the capitalist class none.

Uncle Sam—Upon the very simple principle that the working class does all the work of production and the capitalist does none.

B. J.—Go away!

U. S.—Whither?

B. J.—I can't care whither in particular. That's not so!

U. S.—What's not so?

B. J.—That the capitalists do not work.

U. S.—If you know of any who does, let me know.

B. J.—Did you ever hear of Jay Gould?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Did you ever read his biography?

U. S.—Several of them; and they prove my statement.

B. J.—You must have been asleep while reading them; or you must have read very imperfect ones.

U. S.—Neither.

B. J.—Why, I remember distinctly that it is recorded in the one I read that he used to work regularly 16 hours a day.

U. S.—puts his hands to his hips and roars.

B. J.—What are you roaring about?

U. S.—At your blunder. I now see the funny error that you have fallen in.

B. J.—What error?

U. S.—You are getting mixed up on the word "work." See here. Does a pickpocket "work," or does he not?

B. J.—Guess he does.

U. S.—Does a pirate "work," or does he not?

B. J.—Guess he does.

U. S.—Does a forger "work," or does he not?

B. J.—I guess, he, too, works.

U. S.—Now, don't you yet see the difference between "work" and "work"?

B. J.—puckers his eyelids

